

Home About Us Church Growth Directory Leadership Ministry New Church News TAP/PATHWAYS Donate



Sunday, 18 Sep 2011



## News

Feature Focus

Celebrate

Conference News

Local Church News

Lifting Up...

NEWS Archives

SEC News Resources

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YOU ARE HERE: [HOME](#) ► [NEWS](#) ► FEATURE FOCUS



## Our Church's Wider Mission | A Call to Celebrate!

*Sunday, September 18, 2011*

The Southeast Conference thanks each of our local churches for your continuing generosity to OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission). There are challenges ahead of us as we continue through 2011 and 2012. We know that most understand that the health and vitality of the mission and ministries of the Southeast Conference and the entire United Church of Christ rely heavily on our faithful support of OCWM. Our churches are invited to make a special effort to educate their members about the ministries that are made possible through OCWM and celebrate them on Sunday, September 18. You might invite a member of the Board of Directors of the Conference or the staff to be with you on the 18th. We have a brochure that interprets the mission of OCWM, which you can [download from this link](#). There also are wonderful additional resources on the UCC website including a [PowerPoint](#) and a [video](#), which you can show in worship, or at an adult education event.

# OCWM

## Southeast Conference FAQ's

Who is the SEC?

Who is the UCC?

How Do I Find a UCC Church?

What Ministries are Available?

Is Training Available?

We are proud that in 2010 16% or eight of our churches were Covenant Keepers that is, committed 10% or more of their operating budget to OCWM Basic Support. Another 15 of our churches are Strive to Tithers who have committed to raising their giving 1% a year from the level of 5% until they become a Covenant Keeping church. We are proud too that we have reduced the number of churches giving nothing to OCWM from 15 to eight. We invite your congregation if you are not one of the Covenant Keepers to join us in this support of our common mission. In 2011, we have budgeted for a 10% increase in OCWM Basic Support from local churches. Your voice of advocacy and support in your congregation is important for us to reach this goal. As you know, in the Southeast Conference we have worked hard to maintain our level of support for the whole United Church of Christ, as well as to strengthen our services and programs for you, our local churches.

I often hear the question, "OCWM, what's in it for me?" It is OCWM that brings you support for your search for a new pastor, or makes possible church school curricula. It makes possible the support of your staff and leaders in conflict or transition. OCWM brings you the TAP (Theology Among the People) program to equip your lay ministries and is a part of developing PATHWAYS to train our future ministers. Through it, we provide opportunities for work camps to serve others in need, involvement in global ministries, and much more. Together we can be a strong and missional church in the name of Jesus Christ." OCWM: it changes lives, not only the lives of others, but our lives as well. Contact Gerri Hudson or Tim Downs for resources and support to help you find ways to tell the OCWM story.

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